

the violations and proposed no reason for mitigating the civil penalties; rather, each officer maintained that he was not responsible for the violations and each officer proposed that the other officer should be held responsible for the violations and associated civil penalties.

#### **Summary of the Licensee's Responses Concerning Liability and Responsibility for the Violations**

1. PI's Response Dated May 13, 1997 (Submitted by Mr. Chambers, PI's Secretary/Treasurer): Mr. Chambers protested the proposed civil penalties arguing that he is neither the owner nor President of PI, and that his involvement with PI was strictly as an investor. In addition, Mr. Chambers maintained that he did not take part in the day-to-day operations of PI and that Mr. Kumar, President and major stockholder of PI, is fully responsible for the violations. Mr. Chambers subsequently provided the NRC a copy of "Stock Restriction and Purchase Agreement" among PI, Mr. Chambers, and Mr. Kumar as evidence that his involvement was strictly as an investor.

2. PI's Responses Dated October 28, 1997, and January 6, 1998 (Submitted by Mr. Kumar, PI's President): Mr. Kumar's responses submitted by Mr. Manifesto, Mr. Kumar's counsel, argued that Mr. Chambers was the secretary/treasurer of PI during the relevant time period and that PI was owned jointly by Mr. Kumar and Mr. Chambers. Mr. Kumar further argued that Mr. Chambers had total control of the bank account of the corporation, and had equal financial control over all financial matters, as evidenced by the fact that no payment in excess of \$1,000.00 could be made without Mr. Chambers' signature. In addition, Mr. Kumar maintained that: (1) Mr. Chambers served not only as an officer, but also on the Board of Directors of PI; and (2) after Mr. Kumar severed his relation with PI in August 1994, Mr. Chambers maintained all of the assets of PI, including bank accounts and equipment.

#### **NRC Evaluation of the Licensee's Responses**

The Licensee's arguments, as set forth above, do not provide a basis under the NRC's Enforcement Policy for mitigation or remission of the civil penalties. As to the question of responsibility, PI must pay the civil penalty in accordance with this Order. The Licensee's arguments do not relieve Mr. Chambers or Mr. Kumar of their responsibilities for ensuring that PI pays the civil penalty. Both Mr. Chambers and Mr. Kumar were part-owners and corporate officers of PI during the time period when the violations of NRC requirements occurred.

Therefore, after careful consideration of the responses, the NRC has determined that neither Mr. Chambers nor Mr. Kumar provided an adequate basis for the NRC to conclude that they should not be responsible for ensuring payment of the civil penalties by PI concerning its violations of NRC requirements. The NRC's determination is based on the fact that:

- Mr. Chambers served as an officer, and on the Board of Directors, of PI during the relevant time period; Mr. Chambers had control of all personnel matters during the

relevant time period; Mr. Chambers had total financial control of PI; and Mr. Chambers maintained all of PI's assets, including bank accounts and equipment after PI became defunct.

- Mr. Kumar was the President of PI during the relevant time period; Mr. Kumar is the last known President of Power Inspection as noted in a July 16, 1996 "Stock Restriction and Purchase Agreement"; Mr. Kumar is currently listed as the Chief Executive Officer of PI on the Pennsylvania Department of State Corporate/Limited Partnership records; and Mr. Kumar is currently listed as the Chief Executive Officer/President of PI on the Dunn & Bradstreet listing.

#### **NRC Conclusion**

The NRC has considered all of the arguments the Licensee made and concluded that the Licensee has not provided an adequate basis for mitigation of the proposed civil penalties. In addition, the NRC has concluded that Mr. Chambers and Mr. Kumar are responsible for ensuring payment of the civil penalties by PI concerning its violations of NRC requirements. Consequently, the civil penalties in the amount of \$40,000 should be imposed by order.

[FR Doc. 98-3433 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

### **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

#### **Licensing Support System Advisory Review Panel; Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Licensing Support System Advisory Review Panel (LSSARP) will hold its next meeting on February 24 and 25, 1998, in Las Vegas, Nevada. A future notice will specify the exact location for the meeting. The meeting will be open to the public pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 94-463, 86 Stat. 770-776).

**AGENDA:** The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, and from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., as needed, on Wednesday, February 25, 1998. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss amendments proposed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to its regulations concerning the design and operation of the Licensing Support System (LSS). The proposed amendments were published in the **Federal Register** on November 13, 1997 (62 FR 60789). The time period for comments on the proposed amendments expires on March 30, 1998.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

established the LSSARP in 1989 to provide advice and recommendations to the NRC and to the Department of Energy (DOE) concerning the design, development and operation of an electronic information management system, known as the Licensing Support System (LSS), for the storage and retrieval of information relevant to the Commission's future licensing proceeding for a geologic repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste. Membership on the panel consists of representatives of the State of Nevada, Nye County Nevada, a coalition of local counties of Nevada and California adjoining Nye County, the National Congress of American Indians, the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force, the nuclear industry, DOE, NRC and other agencies of the Federal government which have experience with large electronic information management systems.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John C. Hoyle, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; telephone 301-415-1969.

**Public Participation:** Interested persons may make oral presentations to the Panel or file written statements. Requests for oral presentations should be made to the contact person listed above as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated: February 5, 1998.

**Andrew L. Bates,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-3430 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

### **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

#### **Biweekly Notice; Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations**

##### **I. Background**

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be issued, under a new provision of section 189 of the Act. This provision grants the Commission the authority to issue and make immediately effective any amendment to an operating license upon a determination by the